Since there was no loss to the farmers, the question of compensation does not arise.

Arid Zone Forestry Research Centre, Jodhpur

1691. SHRI B. L. PANWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the construction work of the Arid Zone Forestry Research Centre at Jodhpur in Rajasthan is likely to be completed and by when it will start functioning; and

(b) what was the total outlay on this project initially and what is the present estimate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Orders for setting up the Institute of Arid Zone Forestry Research, Jodhpur have been issued in April, 1988. The construction work in respect of the buildings of the Institute is likely to be started in 1989-90. An amount of Rs. 235.55 lakhs has been sanctioned for the project during seventh five year plan which includes capital and revenue expenditure.

News-item captioned 'Ganga Schemes may be delayed till 1993'

1692. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Times of India of the 12th February, 1989 under the caption 'Ganga' schemes may be delayed till 1993' if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government propose to take to expedite the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the news item quoted and which refers to alleged delays that are likely to occur in the implementation and award of contracts for the construction of certain sewage treatment plants. Under the Ganga Action Plan 262 schemes at a cost of Rs. 258.44 crores have been sanctioned. Of these, 50 schemes have already been completed and a large majority of the remaining interception and diversion schemes are likely to be completed before the end of the 7th Five Year Plan. Work on some of the sewage treatment plants is likely to carry over into the 8th Plan. The Ganga Project Directorate in the Ministry of Environment and Forests is closely liaising with the implementing agencies and the concerned State Governments and monitoring the progress to ensure that the time schedules are adhered to.

Opening of Closed Textile Mills

1693. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of textile mills in the country which are lying closed as on 31st January, 1989; and

(b) what steps Government are taking for their reopening?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) As on 31-1-89, 140 cotton-made fibre textile mills are lying closed in the country.

(b) A decision regarding re-opening of the mills depends on their viability being established before the Nodal Agency/Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. This, in turn, depends on the response of the